Secrets. II—27—100,000—21-5-52

DEVELOPMENT. (1954 8) Department

MG SERIES

I.O. No. 4735 4735

Dated 17-2-1948

[Despatch Abstract.]

Subs- Mines - Mining - Indian Mines Act - Working Review for 1947 - Recorded with remarks.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
ABSTRACT.

Mines - Minning - Indian Mines Act- Working Review for 1947 - Recorded with remarks.

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Kurumbapatti by the Salem Magnesite, Limited, the mines at Kanjanur by S. Rajaratnam Chettiar of Bangaloe, the mines in Chettichavadi Jagir by the Magnesite Corporation of India, Limited, Tiruchirappalli the mines at Periasoragai by V. Nimbakar of Bombay; the Shevaroys bauxite mines by Shevaroy Bauxite Products, Limited, Yercaud; the Sithampudi corumdum mines by V. Nimbakar of Bombay and Messrs. Ajax Products, Limited. The lessee of the Seerapalli magnesite mines viz., The Prithvi Mines Syndicate, Limited, did not commence operations. There was no production in the Seethampudi corumdum mines worked by V. Nimbakar of Bombay, and Messrs. Ajax Products, Limited, closed their mines from 31st October 1946. In Tiruchirappalli district, the Tiruchirappalli Nodules Mines and the Tiruchirappalli Mining Works, Limited, recovered gypsum and phosphatic nodules, and Sri Sankara Ayyar, the Fertiliser and Chemicals (Travancore), Limited, and Govindan Pillai recovered gypsum. The Dalmia Cement Company, Limited, produced gypsum, and limestone and Messrs. Parry and Company, felspar. In Vizagapatam district, Sri Gopalakrishna Mining Company, was working at Kasibugga mica mine and Sri Vijayaramamurthi, the mica mines at Cherlapolam and Narendrapuram. There was no output or manganese and dressed mica in the district.

The statement below shows the output of minerals in the various districts during the last five years:-

Minerals.	Districts.	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947. 1947
Asbestors.					18	
Bauxite.	Kurnool				1,774 tons	2,128½ tons.
	Anantapur				4,894-2 lbs	1,921-18
	Cuddapah				5,636 tons.	1,087 tons.
	Salem				1,662-13	1,368-96 tons
Calcite	Anantapur.				495-15	
China clay	Malabar.					1,501½ tons.
	Nellore.				30	197½ tons.
	Cuddapah					2,725 tons.
Corundum	Salem				20-4-16 lb	
Felspar	Tiruchirapalli.				tons.82	288-9 tons.
Grahite	East Godavari.					25 tons.
Gypsum	Nellore	1,552	492		205	412 tons.
	Tiruchirapalli	11,184	16,388	27,811	15,096-15	22,838-10
Magneisite.	Salem	42,734	38,025	28,047	43,628-10	51,672½ tons
Mica	Madura					64 lb. 6 oz.
	Nilgiris.	9.2	7 cwt 71b	25-12cwt 1/3 lb	13-11-93½lb	17,483½ lb.
	Nellore.	2,145	1,420	1,119	1,678-54lb	1,645-1695
	Coimbatore.	5.93			1-6-41lb.	
	Visagapatam.				1-1-2 lb.	
Phosphatic nodules.	Tiruchirappalli.	462	311	524	243	853 tons5cw
Red oxide of iron.	Bellary.	253	1,042	1,452	1,764	836½
Steatite.	Nellore.		20,469 seers	20,640½ seers.	34,257½ seers.	15,467 seer
	Anantapur.	535	1,255	44		760-10 tons
Stone	Chingleput.	50,507	35,808	54,017	62,147	760-10 tons
	Krishna.		19,700	10,945	11,575	56,016
Limestone.	Tiruchirappalli.				95,860	38,380
	Gunatur.				125,943-26	99,106
	Coimbatore.	189,456.45	197,116	207,042-13 cwt.	174,390-19.	99,934-13. 159,217 tons.

Minerals.	District.	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947.
Lime shell.	Nellore.		3,408		850	700
Gold.	Chittoor.		361.1oz	38.2	55.3	7.14 oz
Chromite.	Krishna		500		274	
Yellow Ochre.	Nellore.					40 tons.
	Kurnool.		864	1,122	61	½
Slate stone.	Kurnool		728½	949	745	
Graphite.	East Godavari			tons.91-6cwt.	95 tons.	25 tons.

The output of barytes in Kurnool rose from 1,174 tons in 1946 to 2,128½ tons in 1947 whilst the output in Anantapur and Cuddapah fell from 4,894 tons 29 lb. and 5,535 tons to 1921 tons 18 lb. and 1,087 tons respectively. There was a decrease in the output of bauxite in Salem from 1,662 tons 13 lb. in 1946 to 1,368 tons 96 lb. in 1947. The output of china clay in Nellore district rose from 30 tons in 1946 to 197½ tons in 1947. There was a production of china clay of 1,501½ tons in Malabar and 2,725 tons in Cuddapah in 1947, as against nil during the previous year. There was a rise in the recovery of felspar in the Tiruchirappalli district from 82 tons in 1946 to 228 tons 9 lb. in 1947. In the same district 22,838 tons 10 lb of gypsum were recovered in 1947, as against 15,096 tons 16 lb. in the previous year and in Nellore 412 tons as against 205 tons. In Salem district the recovery of magnesite was 51,672½ tons in 1947 as against 43,628 tons 10 lb. during the previous year. Seventeen thousand four hundred and eighty-three and a half lb. and 1,645 tons 1,695 tons lb. of mica were produced in the Nilgiris and Nellore districts respectively as against 13 tons cwt. 93½ lb. and 1,678 tons 54 lb. during the year 1946. A small quantity of about 64 lb. of mica was mined in Madura. The output of phosphatic nodules in Tiruchirappalli district during the year under review was 853 tons 5 lb as against 243 tons during the previous year. Eight hundred and thirty-six and a half tons of red oxide of iron were produced in Bellary in 1947 as against, 1,764 tons during the previous year. The output of Steatite in the Nellore and Anantapur districts was 15,467 seers and 760 tons 10 lb. in 1947 as against 34,257½ seers and nil respectively in the previous year. The production of stones in Chingelput was 56,016 tons in 1947 as against 62,147 during 1946. The output in Krishna district was 38,380 tons as against 11,575 tons during 1946. The production of limestone in Tiruchirappalli, Guntur and Coimbatore was 99,106 tons, 97,934 tons 13 lb. and 159,217 tons 26 lb. 174,390 tons 19 lb. during the previous year. The production of limeshell in Nellore district decreased from 850 tons in 1946 to 700 tons in 1947 and gold in Chittoor from 55.3 oz. in 1946 to 7.14 oz. in 1947. Nine hundred and twenty-one and a half tons of yellow ochre were produced in Kurnool district in 1947 as against 61 tons in 1946. Nellore produced 40 tons of yellow ochre this year. There was a production of 25 tons of graphite in East Godavari district.

INSPECTION OF MINES:- The mines in Nilgiri district were inspected by the Health staff and occasionally by the officers of the mines department. In Nellore district, the Junior Inspector of Mines Government of India, made an elaborate inspection of the mines. The Junior Labour Inspector of Mines also visited the mines in the district. The District Health Officer, Nellore inspected 22 mines and the Collector 3 mines. The Mica Executive staff regularly inspected the mines during the year. The Cuddapah dis Tahsildar, Coimbatore, inspected the Associated Cement Company Mines during the year. In Cuddapah district, district, the mines were not inspected during the year under review. The Bellary District Health Officer inspected the mines in the Bellary district. In Salem, were inspected by the mines in the

In Salem district, the mines owned by the Magnesite Syndicate, Limited, Salem, were inspected by the Tahsildar, Salem, Revenu Divisional Officer, Salem, and District Health Officer, Salem, the Chettichavidi Jagir Mines by the Tahsildar, Salem and the Revenue Divisional Officer, Salem. The Karumbapatti Magnesite Mines by the Tahsildar, Omalur, and District Health Officer, Salem, the Kanjanur Magnesite Mines by the Deputy Tahsildar, Uppangarai and the Shevaroya Bauxite Mines by the Deputy Tahsildar, Yercaud and Revenue Divisional Officer, Salem. No mines in the Kurnool district were inspected by the Distric Health Officer during the year. The District Health Officer, Vizagapatam, has not inspected any of the mines in the district. The District Health Officer, Chicacole, did not inspected the manganese mines at Kodur and Garbhan as they were closed.

SUPPLY OF LABOUR:- There was generally no difficulty in securing adequate labour exeept in Nellore district were there was some dearth of skilled labour. In Nilgiris, a male labourer was paid on an average of Rs. 1-10Ø-0 a day, and a female labourer Re. 1. In Anantapur, a male labourer was paid on an average of Re. 1 per day and a female aanas 12 In the Madras Port Trust Stone Quarry in Chingleput district, a male labourer was paid Re. 1 on an average per day. In Madura, male labourers were paid Rs. 1.8.0 per day on an average and female labourers As. 14. In Nellore district, a skilled underground labourer was paid from Re. 1 to Rs. 1.10.0 and an unskilled labourer from As. 10 to Re. 1.4.0. Male factory labourers from were paid from As. 8 to Re 1.4.0 and a woman labourer from As. 8 to As.14.4.0 and In Guntur district, male labourers were paid on an average Re 1.6.6 per day and female labourers Re 1.4.3. The wage for male factory laboure in Coimbatore was Re 1.13.0 and for female labourers Re 1.10.0 on an average. In the quarry the average wage for a man was Re 1.10.3. per day and for a female labourer Re 1.5.6. In Cuddapah district the average daily wages for a male and female labourer were As 13 and As 9 respectively. In Bellary district the daily average rate paid to a male laboure was Re 1 and for a female labourer Re. 0.7.6. In Malabar male labourers were paid Re.1.6.0 and female labourers As.10 per day. In Tiruchirappalli district, quarrying is let on contract in the areas leased on the Tiruchirappalli Mining Works, Limited, and the Dalmia Cement Company Limited and the wages are paid at the turnover basis at fixed rules; generally, a male labourer does a turnover of Re. 1.0.3 to Rs. 2.2.Ø0 per day and a female labourer Re. 1 from Re. 0.9.4 to Re. 0.14.10 a day. In Salem, the daily average rates of wages paid to the male labourers in average ra magnesite mines were Re. 1.3.3. and female labourers Re. 0.13.6 whilst in the bauxite mines, they were paid Re. 1.14.10 and As. 10 respectivel In Kurnool district, the daily rate of wages paid ranged from As. 12 to Re. 1.4.0 in the case of male labourer and from As. 8 to Re. 1 in the case of female labourer. In the Vijayalakshmi Mica Mines in Vizagapatam, male labourers were paid Rs. 2.8.0 per day on an average. In East Godavari, male labourers were paid Rd. 1.4.0 and females As. 12 per day. IN Krishna, male labourers were paid Re. 1.4.0 per day and female labourers Re. 1

RELATIONS BETWEEN EMPLOYEES AND WORKERS:- The relations between the labourers and employers continued to be generally satisfactory. There was an agitation by the gen quarry labourers in Coimbatore district for the abolition of the contract system and on the recommendations of the adjudicator, the Government advised the management to abolish

the system in a reasonable length of time. On account of the failure of the management to implement the award, the quarry workers struck work on 9th December 1946. For want of raw materials, the Company closed down the factory on 5th January 1947, after giving two days notice. Finally the Government were able to effect a settlement and work was resumed on 12th February 1947. In Cuddapah district, there was a strike in Messrs. Tiffin and Company Mines, and this has been amicably settled.

GENERAL HEALTH OF WORKERS :- General health of workers continued to be satisfactory. There was a first-aid post attached to the Madras Port Trust Stone Qaurry at Pallavaram in-charge of a qualified first-aider. The dispensary attached to the Madras Corporation Stone Qarry at Pallavaram is doing useful work. A creche is attached to the dispensay. In Nellore district, though the health of the coolies was fair, malaria is not extict. The medical relief by way of first aid afforded by the management of the mines does not help the labourers appreciably. First-aid equipment is available in almost all the mines. All cases of minor accidents are being attended to at the mines by those qualified to render first-aid services. Serious cases are sent to the hospitals nearby. The need for hospitals with maternity facilities is keenly felt. In Coimbatore, there is a well-equipped dispensary in-charge of qualified doctor, which gives free medical aid to all kinds of labourers and families. There is a recretion club with a library with provision for indoor and outdoor games. Medicine chest, bandages and plasters are available with the agent of the Tiruchirappalli Mining Works, Tiruchirappalli. The Magnesite Syndicate, Limited, Salem junction has appointed a full time medical officer in charge of the dispensay.

SANITATION AND ACCOMMODATION:- In Nilgiris district, every mine is provided with latrines which are kept clean. Drinking water is available in all the mines. In Anantapur district, necessary sanitary arrangements have been made according to the directions of the District Health Officer. There is no housing accommodation at the work spot. Labourers who come from the neighbouring villages get back to their villages after the days work is over. In the Madras Port Trust Stone Quarry, the children of the workers are not taken proper care of. No housing accommodation has been provided and no house rent is paid. Sanitation is fair. In the Madras Corporation Stone Quarry, Pallavaram, no housing accommodation is provided to labourers, but house rent allowance of Rs. 2 is paid. Being a village, there is no difficulty for accommodation. Sanitation is sanita good. In Nellore district, the housing conditions and sanitation have not improved. Though the mine owners were asked by the District Health Officers to construct flush-out latrines, no mine has been provided with them. Bore hole latrines are provided at all the big mines. In some cases, these latrines are also said to be in need of repairs. Drinking water is generally supplied in cement cisterns with taps at the big mines and in earthen pots and tumblers in small mines. The District Health Officer advised that the drinking water should be stored in earthen casks closed with lid and fitted with a tap. Except in a few mines where electricity is provided, the other mines are using candidateles. Ventilation is not satisfactory generally due to the unsystematic workings which block up free circulation of air. In Coim-

batore district, most of the essential workers are provided with house accommodation. A ten-year scheme to house all the employees has been formulated by the Associated Cement Company, Limited. Free quarters are being given for the quarry labourers. The Medical Officer is in charge of the health and sanitation of the colony. In Cuddapah no housing accommodation has been provided, as labourers come mostly from the neighbouring villages. Sheds for the workers for mid-day meal and for short rest have been provided by the majority of the mine manners. In Bellary district, sheds for living and trench latrines should be put up. In Tiruchirappalli district, the labourers working in the limestone quarries of Kallakudi have been provided with comfortable sheds with electric lights. Arrangements have also been made for supply or drinking water at convenient places. In Salem the Magnesite Mines at Salem Junction has provided bore hole latrines for the labourers. A tiffin shed has been provided for the labourers. In several of the mining areas, workers who come from neighbouring villages return home in the evenings.

PRICE OF FOODSTUFFS AND CLOTHING, ETC. - Price of food grains and clothing continued to be high. The labourers in Nilgiris district get their rations from the Bazaars at Cherampadi and Pandalur. In the Madras Port trust Stone Qarry, Pallavaram, no arrangements have been made for supplying foodstuffs and have been made for supplying foodstuffs and clothing. One set of clothing is said to be supplied free on Pongal days. In the Madras Corporation Stone Qarry, Pallavaram, there is a co-operative stores where foodstuffs (except rice) and clothing are supplied at reasonable rates to the labourers. Two sets of clothing are supplied every year. In Coimbatore, there is a grain shop attached to the works where all labourers can purchase foodstuffs and other household necessities. The Magnesite Syndicate, Limited, Salem, is running a grain shop for its labourers.

EDUCATION: In Nilgiris district, no schools are provided by the mines. There are two district board schools near the mines and the school-going-children attend these schools. In the Madras Corporation Stone Qarry at Pallavaram there is a proposal to open a school by the Corporation. In Nellore district, there is a school at Sudharsana Rama Mine at Talapur, which is not working satisfactorily. The children have to go to the schools run by the district boards away from the mica mines. In Coimbatore, there is a recognised Higher Elementary School run by the Company. In Tiruchirappalli district, Dalmia Cement Co., Limited, is running free school at Kallakudi.

LIQUOR CONSUMPTION AND CONTROL: In Tiruchirappalli district, almost all the labourers working in limestone quarries were taking arrack, but after the introduction of Prohibition, this has been stopped. In most of the other districts, there is no liquor consumption due to prohibition.

CRIME AND MORAL CONDITIONS: The moral condition in general was satisfactory. In Nellore district, the morality of the labouring class has not improved. Pilfering of mica is on the increase.

ACCIDENTS: In Chingleput district, in the Madras Port Trust quarry, there were no major accidents, but 21 minor accidents occurred. In the Madras Corporation Stone quarry at Pallavaram, there were 5 major accidents and

the workmen in all these cases rejoined duty after treatment. There were 1,084 minor accidents. In Nellore district, there were six major accidents during the year. Owing to the fall of a pipe in Venkataraman?a Mine, one labourer sustained injuries to the finger of his right hand. Due to the sudden delayed explosion of a misfired explosive in the Parvathi Mica mine, one labourer died in his eye during the shanking of iron bars in the S.R.A.L.N. Mine of Talapur. In Palamani Mine, due to the misfiring of the explosive one of the labourers lost his left hand up to his wrist and another received light injuries. One worker died and three others were injured when a misfired explosive exploded in Pallimita mine and a coolie was injured in his face and thigh in Rajulacheruvu mine owing to the fall of a roof and an old tunnel. All these cases were enquired into and action taken. In Coimbatore, there were some minor accidents.

PROSECTUTION FOR OFFENCES: In Nellore district, the manager of Tallabobu mine was prosecuted for having illicitly stored explisives in the mine premises. The accused was sentenced to pay a fine of Rs. 200. The manager of Harinath Gopal mine was prosecuted for irregular maintenance of records. The Manager of Seetharama mines was prosecuted for having illicitly blasted explosives. The lessee and Manager of Venkatarama Mine were prosecuted for non-submission of accident intimation. These cases are pending with the Court.

The underground surveyor and his staff appointed during the end of 1944 continued throughout the year.

Thirteen lb. of gelignite, 2½lb of gelatine and 92 detonators were used in the South Kolar Gold Mines, Limited, Chittoor,. In Tiruchirappalli district, 16,888 lb of country gunpowder and 2,798 coils of detonators were used. 61,305 lb of country gunpowder were used during the year in the Magnesite Mines at Salem Junction and Chettichavadi Jagir.

GENERAL: In the Nellore district, there is only one depot which supplies explosives to the mines which are scattered over the district. The present depot is located at Sydapuram in one corner of the mica zone and miners are feeling difficulty in getting explosives. There are non-royalty areas in this district where there is no regular system of consignment. The mica executive staff has no control over the mica produced in that area and there is every possibility of some of the mica produced in royalty areas being mixed up with that of non-royalty areas ~~being mixed up with that of non-royalty~~ mines to escape taxation.

The Collector of Nellore reported last year that most of the Managers have no technical qualification and some of them were fit only to be maistris of coolie gangs and suggested that some minimum qualification - a degree in Geology - should be insisted on for managers. His suggestion deserves consideration.

Statement.

ENCLOSURE.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN THE MINES IN THE PROVINCE AND THEIR AVERAGE RATE OF WAGES.

Name of district and particular of mines.	Average No. of workers employed.		Average rate of wages.		Total wages paid daily.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
			Rs.As.p.	Rs.As.P.	Rs.As.P.	Rs.As.P.
Anantapur.	371	293	1 0 0	0 12 0	404 9 5	219 9 10
Bellary-						
Bellary taluk	10	8	1 0 0	0 7 0	10 0 0	3 12 0
Hospet taluk.	10	8	1 0 6	0 7 6	10 0 0	3 12 0
Chittoor-						
South Kolar Gold Mining, Limited.	139		1 5 5		185 14 0	-
Narayananagar.	198		0 8 0		98 8 0	-
Coimbatore Associated Cement Co.Ltd., Madukarai.	4,809	18,250	1 10 3	1 5 6	7,885 0 9	24,570 . 8. 9
Cuddapah.	110	137	0 13 0	0 9 0	89 6 0	77 1 0
East Godavari.	24	18	1 4 0	0 12 0	30 0 0	13 8 0
Guntur.	394	168	1 6 6	1 4 3	554 1 0	212 10 0
Madura.	12	1	1 8 0	0 4 0	18 0 0	0 14 0
Malabar.	49	48	1 6 0	0 10 0	67 6 0	30 0 0
Nellore.	2,635	1,868	1 0 0	0 9 4	2,635 0 0	1,039 10 8
The Nilgiris.	49	45	1 10 0	1 0 0	82 0 0	46 0 0
Salem -						
The Magnesite Syndicate, Limited.	1,141	515	1 3 3	0 13 6	1,372 0 0	434 8 6
Bauxite Mines.	13	27	1 14 0	0 10 0	25 10 0	16 14 0
Kurumbapatti Mines, Kurnool	80	64	1 4 0	0 14 0	xx	
Baliyalli Barytes Mines.	8	10	1 4 0	0 9 6	10 0 0	5 15 0
Nandikonda Barytes Mines.	3	8	1 4 0	0 10 0	3 12 0	8 0 0
Chre Mines in Betamcherla.	11	24	1 0 0	0 11 0	11 0 0	15 0 0
Bapanagondi and Muddonigondi Barytes Mines.	20	17	0 12 0	0 8 0	15 0 0	8 8 0
Maddoni Kunta Barytes Mines.	19	15	0 12 0	0 8 0	14 4 0	7 8 0
Vizagapatam.	104	Nil.	2 8 0	0-0-0	265 0 0	Nil.
Krishna						
Mogalrajapuram quarry No.1/1A.	40	-	-	-	-	- ⊛
Mogalrajapuram No. 1/6	40	-	-	-	-	- +
Vijayawada quarrying.	6	4	1 4 0	1 0 0	9 8 0	4 0 0
Mogalrajapuram.	20	8			25 0 0	8 0 0
Gunadala.	5	5			6 4 0	5 0 0
Ibrahimpatnam.	110	120			137 8 0	120 0 0

⊛ work done on ~~Job work~~ contract System

+ work done on Job work System.

ORDER No. 4735, DEVELOPMENT, dated 17th September 1948.

Recorded.

2. The attention of the Collectors of Nellore and Bellary is invited to the remarks of the Director of Industries and Commerce in his review under the heading "Sanitation and Accommodation" and they are requested to take necessary steps for effecting the improvements suggested in their districts.

3. As regards the suggestion that managers of mines should have technical qualification, the Government consider that a course of practical training will serve the objects better than a mere academic knowledge such as a degree in Geology. They have under consideration proposals for opening a course of training for managers of mica mines in the Ceramics School to be started at Gudur.

(BY ORDER OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR)

(SD) K.G. MENON,
Joint Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Industries and Commerce.
To the District Magistrates of Guntur, Bellary, Anantapur, Chingelput, Coimbatore, Cuddapah, East Godavari, West Godavari, Krishna, Nellore, Kurnool, the Nilgiris, Salem, Vizagapatam and Tirunelveli.
To the Director of Public Health (through Education and Public Health Department).
To the Board of Revenue.
To the Government of India, Ministry of Labour, New Delhi.
To the Chief Inspector of Mines, Dhanbad.
To the Honorary Joint General Secretaries, Safety First ASSOCIATION of India, Bombay.
To the Superintending Geologist, Southern Circile, Geological Survey of India, Madras - 4

/True copy/

R. Thiagarajan 9.2.54
Office Assistant
Superintendent,
~~8.53~~. 1.54
Madras Record Office.